

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212001

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CO

SUBJ: OAS FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING BOGOTA

OAS SECRETARY GENERAL GALO PLAZA RECENTLY RETURNED FROM
BRIEF VISIT TO COLOMBIA AND MADE THE FOLLOWING OBSER-
VATIONS TO US PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE OAS:

1. PLAZA SAW PRESIDENT PASTRANA AND EXPRESSED CONCERN
THAT BOGOTA MEETING MIGHT HINDER PROCEEDINGS OF SPECIAL
COMMITTEE FOR RESTRUCTURING OAS DUE COINCIDENCE OF DATES.
HE URGED THAT MEETING BE POSTPONED UNTIL EARLY '74.
PASTRANA TOLD HIM THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO POSTPONE AS
INVITATIONS ALREADY EXTENDED AND PUBLICITY GIVEN. HE
ASSURED GALO PLAZA THAT MEETING WOULD BE VERY INFORMAL, NO
AGENDA AND ONLY MOST GENERAL COMMUNIQUE AT END.

2. PASTRANA SAID PURPOSE OF MEETING WOULD BE TO
ENABLE LATINS TO ESTABLISH MAIN POINTS THEY WOULD WISH TO
DISCUSS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AT SOME SUBSEQUENT DATE.
IN PASTRANA'S MIND, THE DIALOGUE WITH SECRETARY COULD BE
HELD AS LATE AS FEBRUARY OR MARCH IN ORDER TO PERMIT
FINAL STAGE OF DIALOGUE TO TAKE PLACE AT OAS GENERAL
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ASSEMBLY IN ATLANTA IN LATE APRIL.

3. PASTRANA TOLD GALO PLAZA THAT WHILE SOME FOREIGN
MINISTERS WOULD BE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING, HE HAD

INDICATIONS THAT SOME FIFTEEN WERE PREPARED TO ATTEND
AS OF THIS DATE.

4. IN RESPONSE TO PLAZA'S EXPRESSION OF CONCERN (DUE IN
PART TO PIQUE OVER THE FACT THAT SECRETARIAT FROZEN OUT
OF OAS REFORM PROCESS) WE TOLD HIM THAT U.S. FELT THAT
THE LATINS THEMSELVES HAD TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISION AS
TO WHEN, HOW AND WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE FORUM WHICH
WOULD ESTABLISH LATIN END OF A FORTHCOMING DIALOGUE. KISSINGER

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